

2021-2022 ministry intern

United Campus Christian Fellowship, Grand Rapids Michigan has an internship position for the 2021-2022 academic year. Ideally the intern is considering campus ministry as a ministry career, but certainty is not expected. A willingness to participate in campus ministry is all that is required. Discernment about a call to campus ministry is part of the internship.

Requirements: A willingness to participate in campus ministry is all that is required. Applicants may be persons in seminary, other post grad programs, or seminary graduates. College graduates considering seminary or other post grad programs, and undergraduate students may also apply. No prior ministry experience is expected. Membership in the PC(USA), UMC, ELCA is not required.

About United Campus Christian Fellowship: We are a multi campus, multi denominational campus ministry in the process of emerging from two existing campus ministries; True North Campus Ministry (PC(USA) and the Wesley Fellowship at GVSU (United Methodist). A new ministry denominational partner ELCA is joining us this summer. We plan to invite other denominational partners to join us.

We are a progressive Christian campus ministry. We value interfaith work. We welcome and affirm LGBTQ persons fully in the life of the church and in our work. We take the Bible seriously but not literally and our Bible study reflects that. We are committed to social justice. We value and practice a ministry of presence and relationship. We value and practice hospitality. We are a mission to and for students, and also the faculty, and staff at colleges and universities where we serve.

Students from a variety of theological perspectives- from conservative evangelicals, to Roman Catholics, to agnostic/atheists, in addition to denominationally affiliated protestant Christians take part in our activities. We respect the diversity of faith perspectives in the persons we serve. We are not on campus to create students who think as we do. Our goal is to help students think deeply and seriously about their faith and how it impacts all aspects of their life- whatever that faith tradition (or no tradition) they profess.

UCCF offers a unique campus ministry experience in that we serve three different higher education institutions- Grand Rapids Community College, Kendall College of Art and Design, and Grand Valley State University. The distinct needs and cultures of each school shapes how we do ministry at that school. We work collaboratively with other organizations on campus-in particular interfaith groups and LGBTQ groups. We also partner with other religious and non religious organizations in programs and events where we share similar values.

The Internship: The intern will have the opportunity to experience all facets of campus ministry, working with students, college administration, denominational bodies and local congregations. Campus ministers must do a bit of everything and so will our intern.

In conjunction with the campus ministers, the intern will decide on areas of focus, and which projects to engage. Our smaller size affords our interns a variety of opportunities and experiences. The intern can “sample” a variety of projects, focus on a particular area of ministry, or focus deeply on campus ministry at one institution.

We want to provide opportunities for the intern to learn and to develop new skills and competencies. We will be mindful to assign tasks within the intern’s abilities, but also with the objective to provide reasonable opportunities for challenge and growth.

Because UCCF is a new nonprofit organization, interns with a particular interest in non profit organization and management may focus on non profit organizing and administration and related issues.

In addition to learning and doing the various practical tasks of campus ministry, there will also be regular time set aside for reflection and consideration of the purposes and goals of campus ministry, and regular time will be scheduled for mentoring, reflection, and discernment.

We are a small organization, one full time and one part time campus minister. This means, the intern will have ample opportunity to engage in campus ministry and to be mentored by the campus ministers. The intern’s input will be solicited and valued. Trying new things and possibly “failing” are opportunities for reflection, adjustment, and growth.

This nonprofit does not have a physical office. Meetings, supervised work, etc will take place on campus or other public spaces. Some of the intern’s work can be done at home. The Intern can, within reason, perform internship tasks around their other responsibilities. There may be occasional meetings during evenings or weekends.

The intern will work approximately 10 hours per week during the academic year, beginning mid to late August 2021 through late April 2022. The exact start and end dates will be arranged with the intern. We are willing to work with your institution and you to make this a " for credit" internship. We have a \$2000 stipend (\$ 1000 per semester). In addition, we will send you to the 2022 National Campus Ministry Annual Conference where you will have the opportunity to meet campus ministers from across the nation and who serve in a variety of different settings.

Please send a cover letter and resume to Nancy Janisch, M Div. Director of Campus Ministries at nancy@truenorthonline.org.